Application No. 10/606,839

Amendment dated December 13, 2005

After Final Office Action of July 22, 2005

Docket No.: 0142-0408P

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<u>REMARKS</u>

As noted, with appreciation, the Examiner has indicated that claims 9-12 have been

allowed.

Claim 1 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated

by Barinaga, U.S. Patent No. 6,030,074. Also, claims 7 has been rejected by the Examiner under

35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Barinaga in view of Trafton et al., U.S. Patent

No. 6,554,402. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As will be noted by the Examiner, claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable

subject matter of claim 2, and correspondingly, claim 2 has been canceled from the present

application. Claim 5 has been canceled from the present application and replaced by newly

added claim 14, newly added claim 14 representing a combination of original claim 1 and

claim 5.

Claim 6 has been canceled from the present application and replaced with newly added

claim 15, claim 15 representing the combination of original claim 1 and the subject matter of

claim 6.

Claim 8 has been canceled from the present application and replaced with newly added

claim 16, claim 16 representing the combination of original claim 1 and the subject matter of

claim 8.

Claim 13 has been canceled from the present application and replaced with newly added

claim 17, claim 17 representing the combination of original claim 1 and the subject matter of

claim 13.

Since the Examiner has indicated that claims 9-12 are presently allowed and since all of

the claims objected to have been rewritten in independent form, it is now believed that the

present application containing claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-12 and 14-17 is now in condition for allowance

and accordingly an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 13, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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